

# Learning English with CBC Calgary

## Weekly newscast

### May 10<sup>th</sup> 2013

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#### Objectives of the weekly newscast lesson

- to develop listening skills at the CLB 4 level
- to increase vocabulary among learners
- to increase knowledge of news stories
- to provide a self-study tool, as well as, an ESL classroom resource



[www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca)

<http://www.cbc.ca/calgary/learning-english/>

## News story #1

Before you listen to the first news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

### Vocabulary

Use one of the vocabulary words below to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

abuse (physical or verbal attack)	decade (10 years)	disappeared (went missing)
captive (to be held against your will)	former (existing before)	rape (to force to have sex)
kidnap (to take/steal a person)	prolonged (existing a long time)	nightmare (a bad dream or event)

1. When my daughter has a \_\_\_\_\_, I try to wake her up and calm her.
2. When my cat \_\_\_\_\_, I put posters around the neighbourhood asking for people to call me if they saw her.
3. It has been a \_\_\_\_\_ since I first arrived in Canada, time flies!
4. My \_\_\_\_\_ teacher gave me too much homework, but my current teacher doesn't.
5. Animals at a farm are held \_\_\_\_\_ by people for food or to keep as pets.
6. The doctor said if there was \_\_\_\_\_ pain I should go see a specialist.
7. It breaks my heart to hear of animals that suffer \_\_\_\_\_ or neglect.
8. It is against the law to \_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_ anyone.

Now listen to the first news story from the audio file.

### Listening activity: Multiple Choice

Choose the best answer to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. _____ came to an end for three women in Cleveland, Ohio this week.	a) A decade long nightmare b) A terrible bad dream
2. The three women disappeared between 2002 and 2004 and _____.	a) were found in living in a house. b) were held captive in a house.
3. On Monday one woman was able to scream for help and _____.	a) she woke up the neighbourhood. b) a neighbour helped her get out.
4. Ariel Castro, _____, has been charged with kidnapping and rape.	a) a current school teacher b) a former school bus driver
5. _____ the three women were tied up with ropes and were kept in different rooms.	a) Police say b) The house owner said
6. A city councilman said the three woman _____.	a) longed to return home b) suffered prolonged abuse

### Discussion Questions

Do you think that the media spends too much time on stories about crime, or do you think they should focus on this kind of story?

## News story #2

Before you listen to the second news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

### Vocabulary

The words below are from the second news story. Choose the group of synonyms (words with similar meaning that best match each of the vocabulary words. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Answer	Word from the story	Related words
	1. charge	A. attack with a knife poke cut
	2. investigators	B. illegally kill homicide slay
	3. murder	C. police detectives cops
	4. officials	D. place location area
	5. scene	E. police government representatives politicians
	6. stab	F. arrest accuse blame
	7. suspect	G. possible guilty person possible criminal person arrested

Now listen to the second news story from the audio file.

### Listening Activity: True/False

Decide whether the statements below are **true** or **false**. Write your answer in the blanks. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. \_\_\_\_ A teacher was murdered in Calgary recently.
2. \_\_\_\_ The murder victim was shot.
3. \_\_\_\_ Police do not have a suspect in the crime.
4. \_\_\_\_ Officials think that the victim and suspect did not know each other.
5. \_\_\_\_ The victim was a very popular math and science teacher.

### Discussion Question

Do you think that the number of violent crimes is rising? What should the sentence for murder be in Canada?

### News story #3

Before you listen to the third news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

### Vocabulary

Match the words with their definitions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Answer	Word	Definition
	1. body checking	a) hurt or pain caused by an event
	2. priority	b) believe will occur in the future; to anticipate
	3. evidence	c) to look at again; to research or investigate
	4. injury	d) decrease; to make fewer
	5. concussion	e) hitting another player with your body, in hockey
	6. expect	f) a judgment; a choice that has been made
	7. decision	g) proof, facts showing something is true
	8. review	h) information or response about past performance
	9. feedback	i) something that is very important
	10. reduce	j) a brain injury caused from a hard hit or fall

**Extra definitions to help you understand the reading:**

**Peewee division** – ice hockey league for children from 11 – 12 years old

**pushback** – arguments against; expressions of disagreement

**get rid of** – to throw out; to stop doing something

Now listen to the third news story from the audio file.

### Listening Activity: Short Answer

Read and answer the questions below. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. What is the Alberta Hockey Board getting rid of?
2. What is the first priority of the Alberta Hockey Board?
3. What injuries are often caused by body checking in youth hockey?
4. What does Alberta Hockey expect from parents?
5. Last year, what did the review committee look at?
6. What will the board create in the future?

### Discussion Question

Do you think it is important children participate in sports? What skills can children learn when playing sports? Do you think children should be allowed to body check while playing sports like hockey and football?

## Language Focus

### Pronouns

Pronouns are small words that we use to replace nouns. After a noun is introduced in a sentence we can use a pronoun to refer to the noun, so we do not keep repeating the same word/noun again and again.

Pronouns are divided into groups depending on their role in the sentence. There are subject pronouns, object pronouns, possessive pronoun, demonstrative pronouns, indefinite pronouns and reflexive pronouns. Let's take a closer look at these pronouns"

**Subject pronouns** – are used when the pronoun is the subject of the sentence.

- I, you, she, he, we, they, it
- Example: Zarah is happy today. **She** is spending time at home.

**Object pronouns** – are used when the pronoun is the object (direct or indirect) of the sentence.

- me, you, him, her, it, us, them
- Example: Zarah is spending time at home with **her** children.

**Possessive pronouns** – show ownership

- mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, theirs
- Example: Zarah's children gave **her** a flower for mother's day. The flower is **hers**.

**Demonstrative pronouns** –refer to things according to their distance from the speaker

- this, that, these, those
- Example: Zarah put the flower in the garden **that** is next to the house.

**Indefinite pronouns** – refer to unspecific nouns, or groups

- all, another, anybody, anyone, anything, both, each, everybody, everyone, everything, neither, nobody, no one, nothing, somebody, someone, and something
- Example: Zarah wanted **everyone** to know **her** children gave **her** the lovely flower.

**Reflexive pronouns** - are used only when they refer back to another word in the sentence.

- myself, himself, herself, itself, themselves, ourselves, yourself, yourselves
- Example: **I** forced **myself** to turn off the TV and study for **my** test.

Let's look at the pronouns used in the first story this week:

"The three women disappeared separately between 2002 and 2004 and were held captive in a house. One of the women had a child while in captivity. **They** were found Monday after that woman screamed for help and a neighbour helped **her** get out."

## Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	MAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi, this is Carla Beynon. You're listening to Learning English with CBC for May 8 <sup>th</sup> .	0:00
Story 1	A decade long nightmare came to end for three women in Cleveland, Ohio this week. The three women disappeared separately between 2002 and 2004, and were held captive in a house. One of the women had a child while in captivity. They were found Monday after that woman screamed for help and a neighbour helped her get out. The owner of the house, 52-year-old Ariel Castro, a former school bus driver has been charged with rape and kidnapping. Police say the women Amanda Berry, Gina DeJesus and Michelle Knight were tied up with ropes and chains at times and were kept in different rooms. A city councilman said they suffered prolonged abuse.	0:10
Story 2	Students, staff and parents at a Calgary middle school are very upset after a teacher was murdered. 31-year-old Craig Kelloway was stabbed to death Saturday night in the southeast neighbourhood of Auburn Bay. Police arrested 30-year-old Nicholas Rasberry at the scene and charged him with second-degree murder on Monday. Investigators think the suspect and victim, who live in the same neighbourhood, met for the first time earlier Saturday afternoon at Kelloway's home. Officials said they went to the suspect's home later in the evening where an argument took place between the two. Kelloway, originally from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, was well liked by his students at David Thompson Middle School where he taught math and science.	1:02
Story 3	Hockey Alberta is getting rid of body checking in the Peewee division starting next season. Board chair Rob Virgil says player safety is their first priority, adding there is a lot of evidence that body checking is the single biggest risk factor for injuries, including concussions, in youth hockey. Hockey Alberta expects pushback from some parents but says the decision is final. Last year, a review committee was set up that looked at scientific research, feedback from members and other hockey organizations. The board will also create a plan to reduce serious injuries at all levels.	1:53

## Answer keys

### News story 1

#### Vocabulary

1. When my daughter has a nightmare I try to wake her up and calm her.
2. When my cat disappeared I put posters around the neighbourhood asking for people to call me if they saw her.
3. It has been a decade since I first arrived in Canada, time flies!
4. My former teacher gave me too much homework, but my current teacher doesn't.
5. Animals at a farm are held captive by people for food or to keep as pets.
6. The doctor said if there was prolonged pain I should go see a specialist.
7. It breaks my heart to hear of animals that suffer abuse or neglect.
8. It is against the law to kidnap and/or rape anyone.

#### Listening

1. _____ came to an end for three women in Cleaveland, Ohio this week.	a) A decade long nightmare b) A terrible bad dream
2. The three women disappeared between 2002 and 2004 and _____.	a) were found in living in a house. b) were held captive in a house.
3. On Monday one woman was able to scream for help and _____.	a) she woke up the neighbourhood. b) a neighbour helped her get out.
4. Ariel Castro, _____, has been charged with kidnapping and rape.	a) a current school teacher b) a former school bus driver
5. _____ the three women were tied up with ropes and were kept in different rooms.	a) Police say b) The house owner said
6. A city councilman said the three woman _____.	a) longed to return home b) suffered prolonged abuse

### News story 2

#### Vocabulary

Answer	Word from the story	Related words
F	1. charge	A. attack with a knife poke cut
C	2. investigators	B. illegally kill homicide slay
B	3. murder	C. police detectives cops

E	4. officials	D. place location area
D	5. scene	E. police government representatives politicians
A	6. stab	F. arrest accuse blame
G	7. suspect	G. possible guilty person possible criminal person arrested

### Listening

1. T A teacher was murdered in Calgary recently.
2. F The murder victim was shot.
3. F Police do not have a suspect in the crime.
4. F Officials think that the victim and suspect did not know each other.
5. T The victim was a very popular math and science teacher.

### News story 3

### Vocabulary

Answer	Word	Definition
e	1. body checking	a) hurt or pain caused by an event
i	2. priority	b) believe will occur in the future; to anticipate
g	3. evidence	c) to look at again; to research or investigate
a	4. injury	d) decrease; to make fewer
j	5. concussion	e) hitting another player with your body, in hockey
b	6. expect	f) a judgment; a choice that has been made
f	7. decision	g) proof, facts that show something is true
c	8. review	h) information or response about past performance
h	9. feedback	i) something that is very important
d	10. reduce	j) a brain injury caused from a hard hit or fall



## Listening

1. What is the Alberta Hockey board getting rid of? *Body checking in Peewee division*
2. What is the first priority of the Alberta Hockey board? *Player safety*
3. What injuries are often caused by body checking in youth hockey? *concussions*
4. What does Alberta Hockey expect from parents? *They expect pushback.*
5. Last year, what did the review committee look at? *They looked at scientific research, feedback from members and other hockey organizations.*
6. What will the board create in the future? *They will create a plan to reduce serious injuries at all levels of hockey.*